

16, p. 109) Mr. H. B. Dobbie calls my attention to the fact that he recorded this phenomenon in *Pellaea rotundifolia* in his book on New Zealand Ferns, p. 160. He adds that it is very marked in the small tree fern, *Dicksonia lanata*, extending even to the side pinnae, and occurs, less markedly, in *D. squarrosa*. It would appear, then, that fiddle-heads are not an invariable characteristic of ferns, but may be occasionally replaced in members of any division of the family, by a method of growth more like that usual in other plants.—C. A. WEATHERY.

SOME FERNS OF EASTERN VICTORIA.—Genoa is a small village with a couple of hotels and a post-office, about 90 miles from Orbost and about 320 from Melbourne, on the main tourist route from Melbourne (Victoria) to Sydney (New South Wales). The country there is rather mountainous; the vegetation consists chiefly of Eucalyptus and many species of the climbing order of plants. Near there, in two moist gullies, I noticed *Dicksonia antarctica*, *Lomaria discolor*, *L. lanceolata*, *Todea barbara*, *Blechnum cartilagineum*, *Adiantum aethiopicum*, *Pellaea falcata*, *Gleichenia circinata*, and *Asplenium flabelliforme*.

From there I motored back to Bellbird, a small hotel built near the creek of the same name, and from it explored Eriesson's Creek and gully. There I saw *Dicksonia antarctica*, *Alsophila australis*, *Dryopteris decomposita*, *Polystichum aculeatum*, *Lomaria discolor*, *L. Patersoni*, *L. capensis*, *L. lanceolata*, and *Blechnum cartilagineum* in abundance, while clustered and hanging from the trunks of the tree ferns were *Polypodium australe*, *P. diversifolium*, *P. pustulatum* and *P. grammitidis*, also *Polystichum adiantiforme* and *Asplenium flaccidum* and the tiny filmy ferns *Trichomanes venosum*, *Hymenophyllum australe* and *H. flabellatum*. In some

cases I saw three different species growing on the same tree fern. The growth of the epiphytic species was most noticeable where the track winds about through the tree ferns in the darkest recess of the gully. Further up the gully were seen *Davallia dubia*, *Gleichenia flabellata*, and *G. laevigata*, while growing among the vegetation on the ridge were found *Gleichenia dicarpa*, *Lindsaya linearis*, the common bracken, *Pteris aquilina*, and *Hypolepis rugulosa*.

From there I explored Bellbird Creek and noticed, in addition to species previously seen, *Asplenium bulbiferum*, *A. umbrosum*, *Pteris incisa* and *P. tremula*. Many epiphytic species were also seen here, growing on the tree ferns.

I left by the service car for home, after spending a most enjoyable time among the ferns.—ALLAN MAC-CASKILL, JR., Coleraine, Victoria.

AMERICAN FERN SOCIETY

Report of the President for 1927

It is a pleasant duty to report another good year for the Society. Our satisfactory condition is sufficiently shown in a steadily increasing list of members and the varied content of our quarterly publication, which rarely has contained matter of greater interest to the members generally. There is still needed, however, an increase in the number of contributors, and to this end it is again urged upon members to send in numerous short notes, whether in the form of queries, field observations, incidents of exploration, or minor problems of classification. The Editors are devoting their best efforts to the JOURNAL, and the Council of the Society is aiding in so far as it may, by allotting funds for extra pages and illustrations. What the JOURNAL shall afford in the way of interest and usefulness to its readers lies, neverthe-